

103D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 522

To provide a grant to a nonprofit private organization to establish and operate a national domestic violence hotline.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 21, 1993

Mrs. MORELLA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To provide a grant to a nonprofit private organization to establish and operate a national domestic violence hotline.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “National Domestic Vio-  
5       lence Hotline Act of 1993”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds that—

8               (1) 4,000,000 women are battered by their  
9       partners each year, of which 4,000 die as a result  
10      of such abuse;

1           (2) victims of domestic violence need access to  
2           resources which will refer such victims and their  
3           children to safe homes and shelters; and

4           (3) there is a need for a national domestic vio-  
5           lence hotline to provide information and assistance  
6           to victims of domestic violence because a privately-  
7           funded national domestic violence hotline which han-  
8           dled more than 65,000 crisis calls annually no longer  
9           exists.

10 **SEC. 3. GRANT FOR NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOT-**  
11 **LINE.**

12       The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42  
13 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
14 the following new section:

15 **“SEC. 316. NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE**  
16 **GRANT.**

17       “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide a  
18 grant to a nonprofit private organization to establish and  
19 operate a national, toll-free telephone hotline to provide  
20 information and assistance to victims of domestic violence.  
21 A grant provided under this subsection may extend over  
22 a period of not more than 3 fiscal years and the provision  
23 of payments under such grant shall be subject to the an-  
24 nual approval by the Secretary and subject to the avail-

1 ability of appropriations for the fiscal year involved to  
2 make the payments.

3 “(b) APPLICATION.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not  
5 provide a grant under subsection (a) unless an appli-  
6 cation that meets the requirements of paragraph (2)  
7 has been approved by the Secretary.

8 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—An application meets  
9 the requirements of this paragraph if the applica-  
10 tion—

11 “(A) contains such agreements, assur-  
12 ances, and information, and is in such form and  
13 submitted in such manner as the Secretary  
14 shall prescribe through notice in the Federal  
15 Register;

16 “(B) demonstrates that the applicant has  
17 nationally recognized expertise in the area of  
18 domestic violence and a record of high quality  
19 service to victims of domestic violence, including  
20 support from advocacy groups, particularly  
21 State coalitions and recognized national domes-  
22 tic violence groups;

23 “(C) demonstrates that the applicant has a  
24 commitment to diversity, including the hiring of  
25 and provision of services to ethnic, racial, cul-

1 tural, and non-English speaking minorities, in  
2 addition to older individuals and individuals  
3 with disabilities;

4 “(D) demonstrates that the applicant has  
5 the ability to integrate the hotline into existing  
6 services provided by the applicant to victims of  
7 domestic violence;

8 “(E) includes a complete description of the  
9 applicant’s plan for the establishment and oper-  
10 ation of the hotline, including a description of—

11 “(i) the hiring criteria and training  
12 program for hotline personnel;

13 “(ii) the methods for the creation,  
14 maintenance, and updating of a resource  
15 database for the hotline;

16 “(iii) a plan for providing service on a  
17 24-hour-a-day basis to non-English speak-  
18 ing callers, including hotline personnel who  
19 speak Spanish;

20 “(iv) a plan for access to the hotline  
21 by individuals with hearing impairments;  
22 and

23 “(v) a plan for publicizing the avail-  
24 ability of the hotline; and

1           “(F) contains such other information as  
2           the Secretary may require.

3           “(c) SELECTION.—The Secretary shall select a non-  
4 profit private organization to receive a grant under sub-  
5 section (a) which has been in existence for at least 5 years  
6 from the date of submission of the application by the orga-  
7 nization.

8           “(d) USES.—A grant made under subsection (a) shall  
9 be used to establish and operate a national, toll-free tele-  
10 phone hotline to provide information and assistance to vic-  
11 tims of domestic violence. In establishing and operating  
12 the hotline, a nonprofit private organization shall—

13           “(1) contract with a carrier for the use of a  
14 toll-free telephone line;

15           “(2) employ, train, and supervise personnel to  
16 answer incoming calls and provide counseling and  
17 referral services to callers on a 24-hour-a-day basis;

18           “(3) establish, maintain, and update a database  
19 of information relating to services for victims of do-  
20 mestic violence, including information on the avail-  
21 ability of shelters that serve battered women; and

22           “(4) publicize the hotline to potential users  
23 throughout the United States.

24           “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be  
2           appropriated to carry out this section \$1,000,000 for  
3           each of the fiscal years 1994 through 1996.

4           “(2) AVAILABILITY.—Funds authorized to be  
5           appropriated under paragraph (1) shall remain  
6           available until expended.”.

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